

The Census Man Discovered Him

CESARE STEA, a young sculptor of no mean achievement, was discovered by a census taker.

The boy happened to be at home in the daytime on one occasion four years ago, because he was out of a job. He had been helping his mother cook the midday spaghetti, and, having finished, he was fooling with some clay in a corner of the kitchen.

Enter the census taker, and, besides taking the census, he took a decided interest in the extraordinary likenesses of men and beasts that seemed to grow like magic under the lad's nervous, slender fingers.

The upshot was that Stea was introduced to Victor Salvatore, a fellow sculptor and countryman, in whose studio he has worked ever since. In the evenings Stea has studied hard at the Beaux Arts and the Academy of Design.

Doing Serious Work at Twenty

HIS panel, "The Tutor," adorns the space over the doorway of the Palace of Education at the Panama-Pacific Exposition. It took the prize in the competition held by the Beaux Arts School.

Stea is now twenty years old. His sculptured conception of "War," recently on exhibition at the Reinhardt Galleries, has the typical characteristics of all his work,—simplicity and a kind of strong certainty. A powerful figure of a man, that would be heroic if it were not brutal, is striding across space, sweeping ahead of him an inarticulate mass of blurred smaller figures, whose futile struggles have no effect upon his relentless progress.

"My idea about war," says Stea in his careful English, "is that back of it is the idea and the power of one or perhaps several big men. Besides them in the world



He has tried to put war into marble.

there are countless other people who have not power, who simply live their lives from day to day, taking what comes and doing their best. In war such men take their power and with it drive all these little men ahead of them in a sort of wedge. For the big men it is a gamble. Perhaps if they drive hard enough and long enough they will win more power. But there is no victory nor even gamble for these others, the little men. They can be sure of but one thing,—destruction."

They Hear with Their Eyes



These deaf children are learning the sound of P by blowing out a lighted candle.

OF the 1,200 pupils attending the Parker Practice School, one of Chicago's largest public schools, there are more than a hundred children, ranging in age from five to fifteen years, who have never heard the sound of a human voice. Yet they have been taught to speak almost as well as hearing children, and their skill in reading the lips of a speaker is little short of miraculous.

To Miss Mary McCowen, founder of the McCowen Oral School for Young Deaf Children, is chiefly due the credit for these amazing results. For more than fifteen years Miss McCowen carried on pioneer work for the deaf in Chicago, and it was through her efforts that speech classes were organized in the public schools.

If you should visit the Parker Practice School any morning you might go from room to room and not discover for some time that there was anything peculiar in the manner of instructing the classes.

It is the concentration with which the children watch their teacher that first betrays their physical handicap. All the knowledge they receive must come through the sense of sight, and so their eyes are ever on the alert to catch the smallest movement of their teacher's lips.

Gestures Never Used

THE teacher always talks easily and naturally to the children, just as if they could hear, no other form of communication than spoken language ever being employed. This is necessary, if the children are to be trained to think and express themselves in spoken language as naturally and unconsciously as hearing children. If they were allowed to depend on gestures they would not so readily acquire the fixed habit of watching the lips. The child is first taught simple vowel and consonant sounds. When individual

sounds have been mastered they are combined to form words. The method in every case is for the teacher to hold the child's hand upon throat and chest while she utters a sound. His hand is then applied to his own throat and chest until he has produced similar vibrations.

The power to distinguish differences of vibration by touch is a very important thing; for it is the child's chief guide in modifying his own voice later,—in raising it if it is too deep, or lowering it if it is too shrill. Exercises bearing upon this are conducted with musical instruments such as the guitar and piano, and then applied to the vibrations as felt in the chest, head, and throat.

The teacher first strikes a low note, and the child, watching, feels the vibrations. Then she strikes a high note and calls his attention to the difference. Next she places his hand upon her throat while she sings low and high notes alternately, and in time he acquires the ability to recognize the difference in tone by touch.

The making of aspirate sounds, requiring the forcible exhalation of breath, such as P, is explained by using a feather or lighted candle. The expulsion of breath blows the feather away or causes the flame of the candle to flicker.

Speech reading, which is the ability to understand spoken language by watching the speech movements of the speaker's face, goes side by side with the teaching of speech. From the first hour the child is taught to watch his teacher's lips and to attach a meaning to all their movements, and he learns to interpret spoken language with his eyes as the hearing child does with his ears, without knowing the how or why of it.

To one who watches the work the transformation that takes place in a little deaf child after a few months of teaching by the oral method is simply amazing. The change from nervous and moody discontent into a state of radiant happiness and peace of mind, is like beholding the evolution of winter into spring.

Where Not to Stand in a Thunder Storm

OHIO reports thirty-five thunder storms last year, and fifty-two deaths resulting therefrom. From an investigation into attendant circumstances the following suggestions are sent out by the State Agricultural College as worthy of attention during electrical storms:

1. It is not safe to stand in a doorway.
2. It is not safe to stand near a stove.
3. Do not stand near cattle.
4. Do not stand near wire fences.

In connection with this latter caution it should be noted that eighty per cent. of the cattle killed by lightning were struck when standing near wire fences. It is possible to insure protection from this danger by running wires into the ground from the fence every three or four rods.

Get a Lightning-Rod

ANOTHER fact disclosed is that a building properly rodged is not so likely to be struck. Of the 654 fires in one year resulting from lightning only one of the burned buildings was properly rodged, or had any rods at all. This evidence is further supported by the report of an insurance company which mentions \$5,000,000 risks on fire insurance and not a single loss from buildings properly rodged.

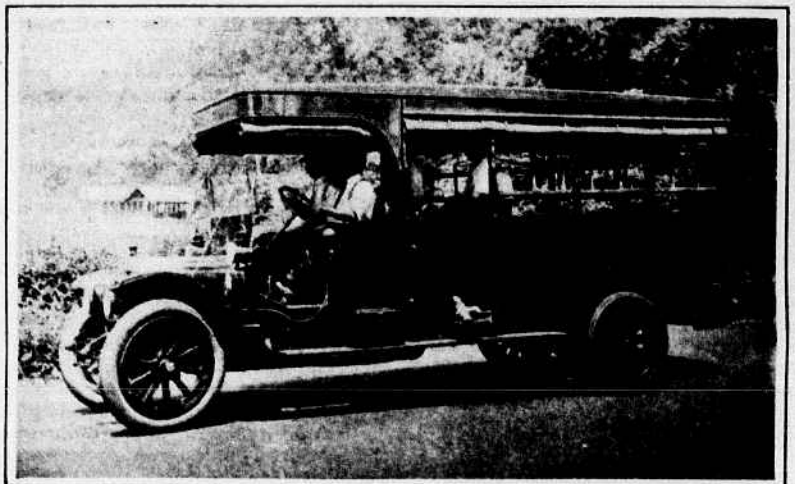
Scientists distinguish two kinds of electrical discharges. One type occurs when there is but a single cloud layer, and the discharge is between this cloud and the atmosphere of the earth. The other type



Where the camera was quicker than lightning.

is found when there are two cloud layers and the discharge is between them. The single-layer discharge is almost invariably carried off successfully by rods; but the double layer is not so readily conducted. Rods may be attached directly to the sides of buildings without insulation; but the ends must reach down to moist earth in order to act properly.

This Truck Is a Wireless Station



This motor-truck is equipped to receive directions by wireless when running at full speed. It is designed for emergency service in maintaining the conduit system of Baltimore. Much damage could result from delay in getting in communication with the truck when it is on duty about the streets, and the wireless has been found to solve the problem. The antennae are suspended beneath the roof of the car, and the receiving outfit is like that used on merchant vessels.